

Award of Architect-Engineer Services Indefinite Delivery Contracts Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why are these architect-engineer services contracts necessary?

A: The Transatlantic Programs Center supports U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operations in the U.S. Central Command area of operations and in other areas. The Center designs and manages projects that support U.S. military operations and international activities, and it supports the forward-deployed Corps of Engineers' organizations in Iraq and Afghanistan. These contracts provide the Corps of Engineers with qualified contractors to provide a wide range of architect-engineer services for projects in this dynamic environment.

Q: How many contracts will be awarded?

A: Up to six contracts may be awarded. Four were awarded December 13, 2008. When the architect-engineer contract solicitation was posted on March 31, 2008, it indicated that the government intended to make multiple awards. During an industry day held April 18, 2008, the government announced that three to six contracts may be awarded.

Q: What is the period of performance?

A: The contracts are awarded for one (base) year, with four option years that can be awarded as needed by the government.

Q: What is the value of the contracts?

A: These contracts have a total value of \$240 million over the entire five-year period. There is no maximum value per firm or per year other than the \$240 million total.

Q: Will the selected firms be required to work in Iraq and Afghanistan?

A: To be considered for this contract, firms were required to indicate willingness to provide services through all geographic areas where the Transatlantic Programs Center works. This includes the Middle East, the Gulf, Central Asia and Africa. Since the Transatlantic Programs Center supports Corps of Engineers' operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, the contracts may be used in those nations.

Q: How will work under this contract be funded?

A: The work will be funded through multiple sources as projects arise: U.S. funding, such as military construction or operations and maintenance funds; funds from other U.S. government agencies that request specific services from the Corps of Engineers; or security assistance funds from defense allies.

Q: How will work under this contract be managed?

A: The Transatlantic Programs Center will maintain contractual authority for task orders issued under these contracts throughout their periods of performance. When architect-engineer services are procured for projects in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Transatlantic Programs Center will manage the task order, coordinating closely with the Corps of Engineers offices in Iraq or Afghanistan to ensure project requirements are met.

Q: How will the government determine if a task order award is fixed price or cost reimbursement?

A: The government's intent is to award most of the task orders as firm fixed price orders. However, there may be task orders, due to uncertainties of the scope of work or deliverables required, that will necessitate a cost reimbursement order.

Q: Describe the selection process.

A: Architect-engineer service contracts are procured in accordance with the Brooks Architect-Engineer Act (Public Law 92-582) and the Federal Acquisition Regulation Part 36. Both require the federal government to publicly announce all requirements for architectural and engineering services, and the government will select architect-engineer contracts on the basis of technical qualifications. The government convenes an evaluation board (or boards) to review the firms' technical information and to evaluate the firms according to the selection criteria. The Selection Board will recommend, in order of preference, the firms considered the most highly qualified to perform the work. The government then negotiates with the highest qualified firms to determine price.

Q: Who participated on the evaluation board?

A: The names of evaluation team members are not releasable, even under the Freedom of Information Act.

Q: Do these contracts have small business requirements?

A: Yes. All firms must provide a small business plan that demonstrates how small business will be used on their contracts.